

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3918

UNCLAS VIENNA 8693

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT'S TELEGRAM A-7287, SEPT. 19

SMITHSONIAN 1876 EXHIBIT

HERE ARE THE ANSWERS OF THE RESPECTIVE ORGANIZATION HEADS:

1. HOFRAT MRAZEK, MUSEUM FUER ANGEWANDTE KUNST:
THE REQUEST OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION IS THE THIRD
REQUEST OF MAKING AVAILABLE ART OBJECTS TO AMERICAN MUSEUMS
(CHICAGO AND CLEVELAND MUSEUMS ARE THE OTHERS). AS, AT THE
MOMENT, THE ANGEWANDTE HAS NO ONE TO DO THE RESEARCH
INVOLVED, THE ANSWER TO THE SMITHSONIAN LETTER WILL TAKE SOME
MORE TIME. MRAZEK WILL LET THE SI KNOW WHETHER OR NOT ANY
OF THE LISTED OBJECTS ARE STILL AVAILABLE AND IF HE CAN
SEND ANYTHING.

2. DIRECTOR NIEDERHUEMER, TECHNISCHES MUSEUM
THE LETTER WAS RECEIVED. AS THE PROJECT INVOLVES EXTENDED
RESEARCH AND AS THE MUSEUM IS AT PRESENT SUFFERING FROM
ACUTE MANPOWER SHORTAGE, IT WILL STILL TAKE SOME TIME
BEFORE THE LETTER CAN BE ANSWERED. FURTHERMORE, HE
WANTS THE SMITHSONIANS TO UNDERSTAND THAT HE COULD
ONLY LET THEM HAVE OBJECTS THAT ARE NOT PART OF THE
PERMANENT EXHIBITS I.E. THAT ARE STORED. HE HAS HIS
DOUBTS, HOWEVER, THAT THESE WOULD BE REPRESENTATIVE
OBJECTS. HE WILL COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH THE
INSTITUTION.

3. MINISTERIALRAT BUCHSBAUM, ABTEILUNG VII, BAUTEN-
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MINISTERIUM

BUCHSBAUM, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE BUNDESSAMMLUNG ALTER STILMOEBEL AND THE SCHAUSAMMLUNG DER EHEMALIGEN HOFTAFEL- UND SILBERKAMMER, SAID, THAT THE LETTERS WERE RECEIVED. AS THEY ARE ONLY A SORT OF MIMEOGRAPHED ROUND-ROBBIN-LETTERS, NO-ONE FELT THAT THEY WERE OF ANY IMPORTANCE. HE HAS LOOKED INTO THE MATTER UPON OUR REQUEST AND ASSURED US THAT THAT THEY WILL LOOK FURTHER INTO THE MATTER AND GET IN TOUCH DIRECTLY WITH THE SI. HE FEELS THAT NEITHER OF THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS HE REPRESENTS WILL BE IN A POSITION TO GIVE ANY OBJECT OVER SUCH A LONG PERIOD (2 1/2 YEARS) TO ANY MUSEUM IN THE WORLD ON A LOAN BASIS.

4. DIRECTOR WAISSENBERGER, MUSEUM DER STADT WIEN HE DID NOT FIND ANYTHING IN THE LIST WHICH COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION. SHOULD HE FIND SOMETHING WHICH COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR SUCH A LONG LOAN PERIOD, HE WOULD GET IN TOUCH DIRECTLY WITH THE SI.

5. HOFRAT KOSCHATZKY, ALBERTINA THE LISTED DRAWINGS ARE NOT IN THE POSSESSION OF THE GRAPHISCHE SAMMLUNG ALBERTINA, THEREFORE, THE MUSEUM IS NOT IN A POSITION TO MAKE THEM AVAILABLE. THE ANSWER HAS BEEN DRAFTED ALREADY AND SHOULD BE MAILED TOMORROW. HUMES

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